Bruning Announces ConAgra Settlement

(Lincoln, NE) Attorney General Jon Bruning today announced that a settlement has been reached in the matter of Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) vs. ConAgra Fertilizer.

ConAgra will pay a civil penalty of \$40,000 to the Nebraska Common Schools Fund, half of which will be waived if the company maintains compliance with Consent Decree and all applicable environmental laws for a period of 180 days. ConAgra has also agreed to pay \$40,000 into the Attorney General's Environmental Protection Fund as a voluntary supplemental environmental project.

"Nebraska's environment must be protected," Attorney General Jon Bruning said, "We appreciate ConAgra's quick response in cleaning up the spill."

The settlement stems from an accidental spill of 3,800 gallons of liquid nitrogen fertilizer from a railcar at ConAgra's Hastings, Neb. plant in January of 2006. ConAgra responded immediately to the spill, provided notification to both the NDEQ and EPA, and worked quickly to contain the spill and minimize environmental impact.

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An audio clip about the settlement is posted on the Attorney General's Web site at www.ago.ne.gov.